

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please cancel paragraphs [0007] through [0016] without prejudice or disclaimer (refer to the present patent application publication for the paragraphs).

Please amend paragraph [0017] as set forth below.

[0017] ~~The 11th~~ To attain the above objective, the first invention provides a microwave plasma sterilizing device comprising a microwave generator for outputting pulsed microwaves and a vacuum chamber with a gas inlet, outlet for a pump and for opening and closing the plate; wherein the microwave inlet for introducing the microwaves and a microwave launcher of the sandwiched structure where the quartz plate for generating volume-wave plasma is sandwiched by a stainless steel perforated plate are arranged on one side in said vacuum chamber, and a movable metal plate is arranged opposite to said microwave launcher on the other side in said vacuum chamber; wherein said movable metal plate is connected to an elevating means to allow vertical positional adjustment and wherein the object being sterilized is placed between said microwave launcher and said movable metal plate.

Please amend paragraph [0033] as set forth below.

[0033] FIG. 2 shows a working example of the microwave plasma sterilizing device of this invention. FIGS. 2 and 3 illustrate and identify stainless steel cylindrical vacuum chamber 1, gas inlet 2, outlet 3 for the pump, upper and lower opening and closing plates 4, microwave launcher 5, movable metal plate 6, coaxial waveguide 7 for introducing microwaves from an external

microwave generator ~~(not shown)~~, probe 8 for detecting the condition of the vacuum chamber, perforated plate 9, many holes 10 of a specified diameter perforated through the perforated plate, quartz plate 11, and vacuum seal 12.

Please amend paragraph [0034] as set forth below.

[0034] The stainless steel cylindrical vacuum chamber 1 of this working example is 500 mm high and has an inside diameter of 250 mm. An aluminum microwave launcher 5 is arranged in the vacuum chamber 1. A movable metal plate 6, 220 mm in diameter, is arranged opposite to the microwave launcher 5. The movable metal plate 6 is connected to an elevating means ~~(not shown)~~ to allow vertical positional adjustment.